AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 11, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--b) reaction, in solution and at a pH of less than 6, between said compound A activated obtained in a) and a peptide, that is completely deprotected, bearing at least one hydrazine or hydrazine derivative group, either at its N-terminal end or at the end of the side chain of a lysine or of an ~~ornithin~~ ornithine possibly present at some point in the peptide sequence.-

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--The process according to the invention makes it possible to effect a chemoselective reaction between the functional group (the hydrazine group or hydrazine derivative group) introduced into the peptide and the activated compound or compounds A; the reaction takes place, in fact, at a pH lower than 6, a pH such that the amino functions of the side chains of the lysines (ε-NH_2 function) or the ~~ornithins~~ ornithines (δ-NH_2 function) or the N-terminal α-NH_2 function possibly present in peptide sequence are protonated, hence non-reactive. Control of the pH thus makes it possible to preferentially acetylate the hydrazine or hydrazine derivative group introduced into the peptide, without the other functional groups of the side chains of the amino acids constituting the peptide reacting.-

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--According to one preferred arrangement of this form of embodiment, prior to step b) of the process according to the invention, said peptide is functionalized by an α-hydrazinoacetic group, either at its N-terminal end or at the end of the side chain of a lysine or of an ~~ornithin~~ ornithine possibly present at some point in the the peptide sequence, using N,N'-tri(Boc)hydrazinoacetic acid or N,N'-di(Boc)hydrazinoacetic acid.-

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 21, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--The present invention further relates to the use of N,N'-tri(Boc)hydrazinoacetic acid or N,N'-di(Boc)hydrazinoacetic acid for functionalizing a peptide intended to be linked according to the above coupling process, in the event of the hydrazine group borne by the peptide being an α-hydrazinoacetic group, with this taking place prior to step b), with an α-hydrazinoacetic acid, either at the N-terminal end of said peptide or at the end of the side chain of a lysine or of an ~~ornithin~~ ornithine possibly present at some point in the peptide sequence.-

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 28, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--It is clearly understood, however, that an α-hydrazinoacetic group can be introduced into said peptide either at the N-terminal end of said peptide or at the end of the side chain of a lysine or of an ~~ornithin~~ ornithine possibly present at any point in the peptide sequence using any process known to a person skilled in the art; for example, functionalization of a peptide with an α-hydrazinoacetic group can be carried out via a solid phase N-amination reaction, as described by C. KLINGUER *et al.* in Tetrahedron Letters, 1996, 37, 40, 7259-7262, by means of the commercial reagent N-Boc-3-(4-cyanophenyl)oxaziridine (BCPO). This is the case, for example, of an N-amination reaction carried out on a glycine residue in the N-terminal position of a peptide or on the side chain of a lysine or of an ~~ornithin~~ ornithine present at some point in the peptide sequence.-

Please insert the following title between lines 22 and 23 of page 8:

Brief Description of the Drawings

Please insert the following title between lines 2 and 3 of page 9:

Detailed Description